

# The Presbyterian Review.

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Toronto, October 17, 1895.

## Honan Mission.

A NOTE of joy comes from our Mission field in Honan because of the recent decision of the committee to send additional men. Mr. Goforth writes "We are overjoyed to hear that Knox is responding to the needs of China by sending out Mitchell and Menzies," but his opinion of the Chinese has not altered; the war seems to have affected little as yet in the interior and our missionaries need more than ever our prayers and practical sympathy—for to quote again from Mr. Goforth's recent letter "the officials and gentry are not one whit more angelic since the Jap's have so severely chastised them." There may be years of freedom from molestation or there may not be many days till the bitter hate of foreigners takes shape in organized hostility. But there are great reasons for thankfulness that God has protected our missionaries and that so many of our band are now in, or on the way to Honan, and we cannot do better than repeat here the words of Mr. Goforth as indicating the spirit which animates our representatives in far away Honan, "I take this opportunity to gratefully testify to God's great goodness to me personally since returning to China, He has brought me into more intimate communion with Himself, His word and prayer have become to me grander realities, I accept it as proof that He is going to more abundantly bless, I face the future with brighter hope"—world wide missions is the chief business of the Church "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Surely we at home should bear these brethren on our hearts at the throne and join them in looking for grander results than ever before realised. But we must work as well as pray no *intention* to do something in the future will satisfy God's claim for present service and no bequest with all its contingencies of loss and disappointment can possibly bring the blessing, that an immediate effort to meet the need must secure, Mr. Goforth remarks, that "of course some of us *intend* to make big sacrifices when we die but a present obedience is a thousandfold more acceptable to Him."

In a private letter to Mr. Burns, the Treasurer of the Goforth fund, Mr. Goforth writes, "I intend to leave here about Sept. 10th., to receive Mrs. Goforth and family at Tientsin about Sept 21st. By that time I hope to have every thing in order here to move into the City when I bring my family from Tientsin."

He makes a request in this letter which some of our good friends would doubtless take pleasure in gratifying. "I would like to put in a bid for say two illustrated papers out of the reading room at Knox. One American and one English. I will gladly pay the regular auction price and postage. I find them a decided help in teaching the natives. I have been

taking the *London Graphic*, but find it too expensive. Old ones will serve the purpose just as well."

Any inquiries would doubtless be answered by Mr. Burns.

## Rev. Dr. Wardrope.

The *Free Church Monthly*, the bright pages of which never fail to interest, devotes space to the following tribute to the venerable and highly esteemed Dr. Wardrope of Guelph:—To Dr. Wardrope belongs the interesting distinction of being the first minister who was ordained in Canada in connection with the Free Church. His jubilee has just been celebrated, and in that connection some notable things were mentioned about his life. He was born in 1819 at Ladykirk, Berwickshire; but in 1834 he moved with his family to America. There he became a member of the first class of students who attended Queen's College, Kingston, and he was still there when the Disruption took place. Casting in his lot with the Evangelicals, he completed his theological education under the superintendence of the Free Church, and was settled immediately after being licensed as minister of Daly Street Church, Bytown. Twenty-four years later he accepted a call to Chalmers' Church, Guelph, and as its pastor he remained till within the last two years, when he retired into private life. The congregation was in its infancy when he took charge of it. Now it is one of the largest and most influential in the city. Many friends gathered to show their respect for Dr. Wardrope, who is happily still able to take his share of Christian work.

## Young People's Leaflet.

The first number of the Leaflet for Young Peoples Societies prepared by the Rev. R. P. Mackay the Secretary of Foreign Missions has come to hand. As already announced, it is intended to put the young people of the Church into touch with the Honan Mission, which they are asked to support by their contributions. Mr. Mackay proposes to issue these Leaflets regularly and lead the young people through a course of study on China during the first year, after which other fields will be taken up, and thus in time not only overtake all our own fields but as well diffuse amongst the young people much information about the countries in which our missionaries are laboring. Mr. Mackay adopts the "Question and Answer" style of imparting instruction, and he certainly has succeeded in packing an immense amount of most interesting material in this little booklet of sixteen pages.

The extent and resources of China are given in outline, but we especially commend the section that explains the nature of Ancestral worship. No where have we seen so clear and satisfactory an exposition of the philosophy and ritual of that ancient system. It is intended that there should be in each Leaflet a letter from one of the missionaries, and the first is from Dr. J. Fraser Smith, who gives a short sketch of the origin of the Honan Mission. We heartily commend this scheme to the Young People as the best method yet adopted in the Presbyterian Church for an intelligent study of missions with the additional advantage of cheapness. On the title page are printed the words "supplied in quantities at one cent each." At that price no society need want a supply.

## It Endureth Forever.

A masculine tribute is that paid to the Bible is that contained in the following words of Dr. John Clifford. At the present time when the Book is undergoing a fiery ordeal of criticism these words are opportune:—